



U.S. Immigration
and Customs
Enforcement

January 13, 2005

News Release

ICE DEPORTS TWICE-CONVICTED SEX OFFENDER TO LIBERIA

BLOOMINGTON, Minn.—U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) detention and removal officers have deported a former New Hope man who had been convicted twice of sex offenses involving underage girls.

Isaac Elijah Danquah, 26, a citizen of Liberia, arrived in Monrovia Wednesday under U.S. government escort.

Danquah was convicted in Hennepin County District Court June 13, 2003 of two counts of solicitation of a child to engage in sexual conduct. Court documents describe Danquah's attempt to lure a 14-year-old girl into his car by offering her money. He also grabbed her and attempted to kiss her.



The same court had also convicted Danquah in August 2002 of fifth degree criminal sexual contact. The victim was a 16-year-old girl he had met in a grocery store.

Police reports also describe incidents in which Danquah entered apartments through unlocked doors, made inappropriate comments to young girls, exposed himself to an adolescent girl, and followed a 15-year-old who was taking out her family's trash.

Prior to his convictions, Danquah had been a Lawful Permanent Resident of the United States, or "green card" holder. The convictions resulted in him losing his immigration status.

"The residents of New Hope should breathe a little easier knowing this man is out of the country," said ICE St. Paul Field Office Director Scott Baniecke. "Those criminal aliens who victimize the most vulnerable among us will be sought out, apprehended and removed." Baniecke manages ICE Detention and Removal Operations in a five-state area, including Iowa, Minnesota, Nebraska, North Dakota and South Dakota.

Danquah's removal is part of Operation Predator, a nationwide ICE initiative designed to protect children from sexual predators, including those who travel overseas for sex with minors, Internet child pornographers, criminal alien sex offenders, and child sex traffickers. Since Operation Predator was launched in July 2003, ICE agents in Minnesota have arrested more than 130 alleged sexual predators to date, making it among the top ten states nationwide for apprehensions. Nationwide, ICE agents have arrested more than 4,700 sexual predators.

During fiscal year 2004, which ended Sept. 30, ICE detention and removal officers removed 3,152 criminal aliens and status violators from a five-state area that includes Minnesota, North Dakota, South Dakota, Nebraska and Iowa. Of that number, 1,488 were classified as criminal aliens for having been convicted of such crimes as drug offenses, assault and battery, armed robbery, rape, and fraud, among others. The remaining 1,664 had committed administrative immigration law violations.

ICE encourages the reporting of suspected child predators and any suspicious activity through its toll-free hotline at 1-866-DHS-2ICE. This hotline is staffed around the clock by investigators.

Suspected child sexual exploitation or missing children may be reported to the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children, an Operation Predator partner, at 1-800-843-5678 or <http://www.cybertipline.com>.

NOTE: For a JPEG digital image file Danquah, please contact Tim Counts at 952-853-2602 or via e-mail at Tim.Counts@dhs.gov.

ICE

U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement is the largest investigative arm of the Department of Homeland Security.